

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
PUBLIC SESSION
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2011
7:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Council President Porter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Councilmember LaTasha Gatling, (Excused) Mayor Eugene Grant (Late Arrival 7:17pm), Councilmember Darrell Hardy, Council President Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr., Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Aretha Stephenson, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, City Treasurer, Vincent Jones, City Administrator, Johnny Thompson, Director of Public Works

1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

The invocation was given by Councilmember Yeargin

1.1.4. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the following modifications:

- Strike 6.1. Final Review and Approval of Personnel Manual

It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

1.1.5. Reading/Approval of Public Session, Regular Work Session Meeting Minutes:

- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Regular Work Session meeting minutes for Monday, September 7, 2011. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Special Session minutes for Monday, September 12, 2011. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.

- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Public Session minutes for Monday, September 12, 2011. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved
- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Regular Work Session meeting minutes for Monday, October 3, 2011. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Public Session meeting minutes for Monday, October 10, 2011. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Special Session meeting minutes for Monday, October 12, 2011. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved
- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Special Session meeting minutes for Monday, October 24, 2011. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved

2. PRESENTATIONS:

2.1. None

3. LEGISLATION

3.1 Resolution R-12-04 Support of State Highway Administration MD/704 Martin Luther King, Jr., Highway Safety Enhancement Project was introduced by the City Council on Monday, November 14, 2011. It was motioned by Councilmember Simms and seconded by Councilmember Yeargin to approve Resolution R-12-04. The motion carried. The Resolution was unanimously approved.

3.2. Resolution R-12-05 Declaration of Municipal Government Month was introduced by City Council on Monday, November 14, 2011. It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Simms to approve Resolution R-12-05. The motion carried. The Resolution was unanimously approved.

3.3. Ordinance O-12-09 Chapter 150 Parking Regulations was introduced by City Council on Monday, November 7, 2011 and the first reading was declared. The second reading was conducted on Monday, November 14, 2011. It was motioned by Councilmember Simms and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve Ordinance O-12-09. The motion carried. The Ordinance was unanimously approved.

3.4. Ordinance O-12-10 City Personnel Rules and Regulations was introduced by the City Council on Monday, November 14, 2011. The first reading was declared.

4. REPORTS

4.1. Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Grant reported on the follow-up on the work of the Feggans Center. A Special Session will be held in the next week to begin talking about how they will move forward.
- There are some proposal and we have commitment up to fifty (50) million dollars at no cost to the tax payer.
- The master lease process and private/public partnerships are the way most projects in the State are being done. Chapter 640 of the State Code will be enabling legislation to assist with the needs on the municipality level.
- The other way will cost the tax payers money.

4.2. Kelly Porter, Council President Report:

- Council President Porter stated that his monthly report is on the information stand.
- He stated that a few of his colleagues attended the National League of Cities Conference and they discussed infrastructure and finding money to fund projects. They had several presentations last week.
- These ties into the road work on Central Avenue and Martin Luther King, Jr. Highway. The reputation of the company will be a great source to the City.
- Councilman Yeargin concurred with Councilman Porter and stated that a room will be named after Mr. Feggans.

4.3 Kevin Brenner, Chief-Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department

- Chief Brenner was absent from the November Public Session. However, Councilman Porter stated that Senator Benson will be working with the city to ensure the Fire Department remains in the city.

4.2. City Administrator – Vincent E. Jones

- Personnel Handbook revision almost ready for approval
- The City submitted an application for the Community Legacy funding to get control of properties in the City. They will be focusing on Martin Luther King and Addison Road, which is the gateway in the City. The primary focus will be on vacant properties.

- The Internal Computer Network server wiring is complete. The next step is to purchase the network.
- He has identified candidates for the General Ledger Supervisor position and the Economic Development Coordinator contract position.
- The City Attorney RFP received nine (9) responses. He will be working with the Council to establish a process.
- The City has received a grant for lighting upgrade in City Hall and they have interviewed four (4) of the candidates that will install the upgraded lights.

4.3. Code Enforcement –Tiara Andrews, Code Enforcer

- The Code Enforcement Officer was not present at the November Public Session meeting. The report was submitted in writing.
- Councilman Porter stated to the City Administrator that if a staff person will not be attending meetings that their names should be removed from the agenda.
- Councilwoman Simms requested Code Enforcement and Nuisance and Abatement to provide detail reports.

4.4. Finance Department- Robert Ashton, Treasurer

- Mr. Ashton encouraged everyone to read the report on the information stand.
- He stated that he has submitted an article to inform you on the process to appeal the assessment value of your property. He recommended that the residents not wait for three (3) years.

4.6. Police Department – Samuel Prue, Chief of Police

- Lt. Patterson stated that the Chief submitted a written report for the month of November.
- Lt. Patterson stated that they have K-9 dog who works mostly in the evening. The dog name is Sadie and she patrols the common areas with Officer Perez

4.8. Public Works Department- Johnny Thompson, Director of Public Works

- Reported that the Public Works Department sweeps an average of 39.50 miles of streets per week.
- They have abated sites with graffiti and have removed abandoned vehicles from public and private spaces.
- The Public Works Department collected 25.48 tons of garbage and 10.93 tons

of leaves, limbs and wood.

- He requested the residents to report illegal dumping by calling the police department.
- Mayor Grant stated that he likes the statistical data. He requested that Mr. Thompson include the cost. He encouraged him to submit the information in the newsletter.
- Mr. Thompson stated that the Public Department spent \$9,000 last year in dumping cost.
- Councilman Yeargin requested signs to be installed in the illegal dumping areas

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

1. Amanda Feggans – 300 69th Place, Seat Pleasant, MD 20743, stated her questions were answered on the Feggans Center. She stated that Mr. Thompson is the best Public Works Foreman the city has hired. She complimented the City Council and City Administrator on the informative newsletter. She wanted to know if they expected the residents to bag leaves and drag them from the yards to the street. Her street has tall and old trees. She wanted to know what has happened with the leave machine. Mr. Thompson explained that the sleeve to collect the leaves is out of service and was scheduled to be picked up today. Mr. Thompson stated that the Public Works want the leaves to be bagged and placed on the curb. They will gather the leaves on the streets.
2. Eugene Kennedy-6110 Addison Rd, Seat Pleasant, MD 20743, stated that he wanted to get on the council about not attending the Veteran's Day Program until he was informed that they were on travel. He stated that he feels a park should be named after Former Mayor Blackwell. He stated the park behind the Activity Center. The park behind the McDonald's should be named after Hilda Pembleton. Mayor Grant stated it would be added to the Legislative Breakfast.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6.2. Strategic Workshop Approval & Scheduling

- Mr. Jones provided the City Council with dates of availability as the following:
- January 6, 7, 13, 14 27 and 28th
- February 3, 4, 10, 11 14 and 15th

- Councilman Porter tabled the discussion until the Special Session scheduled for Monday, November 21, 2011.

6.3. Approval of Day after Thanksgiving Holiday Observance

- Mr. Jones requested that the Council approve Friday, November 25, 2011 as Holiday for this year only.
- Mayor Grant stated that the Council cannot approve the request with a Resolution.
- Councilman Porter requested that the Resolution be prepared for Monday, November 21, 2011.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1. None

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 8.1. PGCMA Legislative Dinner, Thursday, November 17, 2011 at 6:00p.m., Metro Points Hotel, 8500 Annapolis Rd, New Carrollton, MD
- 8.2. City Hall will be CLOSED on Thursday, November 24, 2011 in observance of Thanksgiving Day
- 8.3. Ward IV & Ward V Meeting, Saturday, December 3, 2011 at 2:00p.m., Seat Pleasant City Hall

9. ADJOURN- The meeting adjourned at 8:37p.m.

Submitted by,


Dashaun N. Lahham
City Clerk